



## **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

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# YEAR IN REVIEW AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

## Year in Review and Looking to the Future

### 2020 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Friends of St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower (FOSRMFT) continued to receive a stream of generous donations from its supporters who also purchased patches, hats, and stickers. Due to lack of restoration projects in 2020, our expenses were very minimal and exceeded by revenue.

### 2020 OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

2020 was a short restoration year due to COVID – 19. Once the tower was opened to the public in June, FOSRMFT was hesitant to close it again in order finish projects from the previous year. Over two workdays in August and September, board members finished galvanizing pre-drilled holes in the window frames of the tower. They also removed the pressure treated lumber making up the final flights of stairs and cab landing to prime the metal underneath.



### LOOKING AHEAD

We are looking forward to a productive year in 2021 and are eager to finish the projects that were put to the side in 2020. The major plans involve painting the entire tower as well as installing interpretive panels in the cab with the help of Mark Kurtz Photography. These panels feature photos of surrounding landmarks accompanied by labels to help visitors to the tower identify their surroundings. Two of these panels will be installed before winter to see how they react to severe conditions on the summit. If the panels are still in good shape in the spring, there will be two more installed.

## YEAR IN REVIEW AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

After a slow hiking year and tower closures, we anticipate high hiker numbers and will be supplied with a summit steward by the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) for three days a week between Memorial and Labor Day.





# STEWARDSHIP REPORT

## Stewardship Report

Tower closures between March and June, along with public health concerns related to COVID-19 led to a very short stewarding season. The AWI did not provide a summit steward this year and the only stewarding that was done was by board members during tower workdays.

# OUTREACH

## Outreach

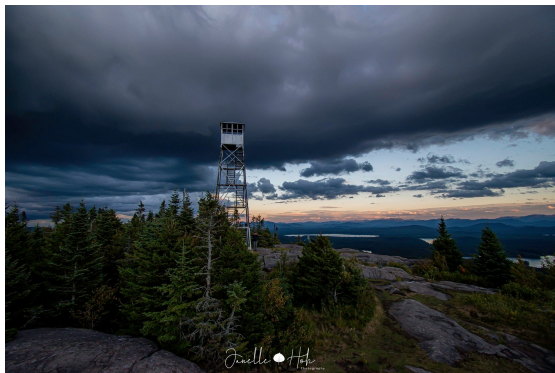
### EVENTS

Board members Bob and Janelle participated in the Seventh Annual Lighting of NYS Fire Towers, the 4th year for St Regis Fire Tower and the third year for Bob and Janelle! Our reputation has grown over these past few years and this year they were joined by four new volunteers.

Meanwhile, Board members enjoyed a meal at the Lake Clear Lodge along with many other friends in a very safe environment, where they then were able to watch the lighting.

The lighting event started in the Catskills and has spread to other towers around New York. In their heyday, fire towers and their observers kept watchful eyes over the land, spotting fires in early detection efforts. The lights from this event served as a reminder for those who looked up and saw a glowing tower, and of the people and towers who looked over communities for the better part of the 1900s.

Janelle and volunteer Mark Boyce supplied the photos seen below.



## OUTREACH

### NEWS ARTICLES

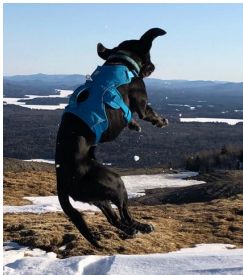
In May 2020, the Adirondack Daily Enterprise published a guest commentary by Kevin Shea. The article describes his hike up St. Regis Mountain on a beautiful April day, along with his concerns regarding the future of hiking amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.



Photo: Kevin Shea 2020

Copies of newspaper articles and pictures can be found on the FOSRMFT website under the “News” tab.

### SOCIAL MEDIA



Board members continued to update the FOSRMFT website and Facebook page in 2020.

The website provides continually updated restoration progress, as well as daily steward reports, photos of hikers, news articles featuring the tower and a multitude of educational resources.

The Facebook page publishes much of the same information as the website as well as providing a platform to reach more people on a regular basis. Our social media presence makes it easy for hikers to send in photos to be featured on the page.

The page gained 347 followers in 2020, with a total of 1547 on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Financial Statements

### 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Grants	0
Membership Dues	0
Donations	1341
Events	0
Interest	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1341</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Legal and Accounting Fees	32
Program Expense	266
Equipment	0
Supplies	0
Printing & Copying	0
IT	35
Postage & Delivery	65
Fundraising	561
Construction Costs	58
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1016</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>325</b>

### BALANCE SHEET AS OF 12/31/2020

#### **Assets**

Checking/Savings:	
Adirondack Bank	\$3,182.47

<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$3,182.47</b>
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#### **Liabilities & Equity**

Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$10,100.86
Unrestricted Net Assets	-\$7,243.81
Net Income	\$325.42
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$3,182.47</b>

<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$0</b>
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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS FRIENDS OF ST. REGIS MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER

## Board of Directors Friends of St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower

Doug Fitzgerald - Co-chair

David Petrelli – Co-chair

Nancy LaBombard - Treasurer

Richard LaBombard- Operations

Janelle Hoh- Education

Scottie Adams

Bob Brand

Jack Burke

Dr. Ed Hixson

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### FRIENDS OF ST. REGIS MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER

#### Contact Information Friends of St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower

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